

## **Tax Payer Relief Act of 2006: Homestead / Farmstead Exclusion**

Act 1 of 2006 was signed into law in June of 2006 by Governor Rendell. Act 1 allows school districts to reduce property taxes by lowering the taxable assessed value on your annual property tax bill if the Commonwealth accumulates sufficient revenue from gaming.

Under the homestead or farmstead property tax exclusion, the assessed value of each homestead or farmstead is reduced by the same amount before the property tax is computed. Every "qualified" homestead within a district receives the same amount of property tax relief, regardless of the assessed value of the home.

***To receive the homestead exclusion, you must have an approved application on file with your County of residence. The deadline to file for the exclusion is March 1<sup>st</sup>. If the deadline is missed, you can apply for the following year (but not qualify for the year you missed). Once you have an approved application on file, it is not necessary to re-file.***

Please see the attached sample letter that is mailed in December of each year to residents that have not filed an application.

- Chester County residents, for an application, visit the Chester County web-site, (Departments A-B, Assessment, Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion) or click [here to download the application](#).
- Lancaster County residents, for an application, visit the Lancaster County web-site, (Offices & Departments, Property Assesment, Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion) or click [here to download the application](#).

Questions? Please contact the tax office at (610) 593-8212 or email [aantosh@octorara.org](mailto:aantosh@octorara.org).